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SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC SECURITY,
INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION, AND CYBERSECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MANAGEMENT, INTEGRATION,
AND OVERSIGHT
- **COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION**

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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May 2, 2006

The Honorable Rob Simmons
Chair, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing
and Terrorism Risk Assessment
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

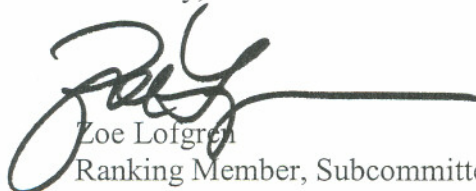
Dear Chairman Simmons:

Thank you for your April 25, 2006 reply letter regarding my previous requests that our Subcommittee provide oversight to the NSA's questionable intelligence collection activities. It has become clear that you and I disagree on this issue.

In an April 6, 2006 letter to you and Chairman King, Ranking Member Thompson and I laid out why we believe our Committee has NSA oversight jurisdiction under House Rules. I understand that you and Chairman King disagree with us regarding Committee jurisdiction in this matter. Even though we may disagree on the broad question of jurisdiction over this NSA program, I hope that we will be able to come to agreement on a more narrow question: How to deal with information that becomes part of the DHS shared information structure that may have been collected by other agencies, including the NSA, in violation of law.

As I previously mentioned to you, last Congress I had an excellent working relationship with my Subcommittee Chairman Mac Thornberry. I believe that in matters regarding our homeland security there should be no partisan agenda – we must always put the wellbeing of our country ahead of any personal or party interests. I am hopeful that under your leadership our Subcommittee will come together in a similar bipartisan manner in the remaining time of the 109th Congress to address the issues confronting our nation's security. I remain eager to work with you in that effort.

Sincerely,



Zoe Lofgren
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information
Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment